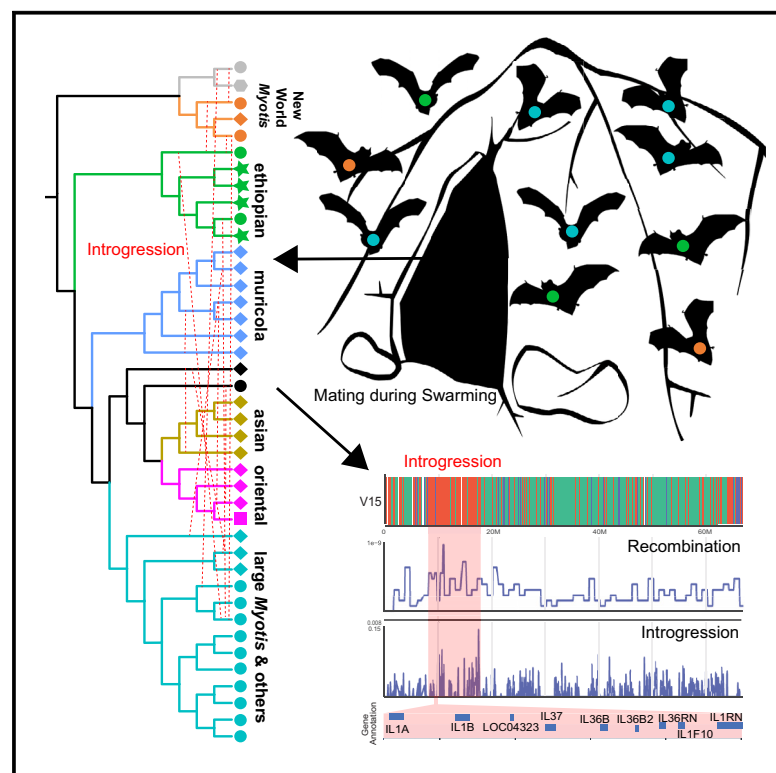


Karyotypic stasis and swarming influenced the evolution of viral tolerance in a species-rich bat radiation

Graphical abstract



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In brief

In their recombination-aware phylogenomic analyses, Foley et al. demonstrate pervasive introgression among *Myotis* bats, likely promoted by their use of cryptic swarming behavior during mating. Introgression has acted to restrict the species tree to low recombining regions of the genome. In contrast, immune loci are enriched in introgressed regions.

Highlights

- Phylogenomics reveals pervasive introgression among Old World *Myotis* bats
- A cryptic bat mating behavior called swarming promotes interspecific introgression
- Genomic regions of low recombination repel introgression and retain the species tree
- Immune loci are among those most frequently introgressed

Article

Karyotypic stasis and swarming influenced the evolution of viral tolerance in a species-rich bat radiation

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SUMMARY

The emergence of COVID-19 and severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) has prioritized understanding bats' viral tolerance. *Myotis* bats are exceptionally species rich and have evolved viral tolerance. They also exhibit swarming, a cryptic behavior where large, multi-species assemblages gather for mating, which has been hypothesized to promote interspecific hybridization. To resolve the coevolution of genome architecture and their unusual antiviral tolerance, we undertook a phylogenomic analysis of 60 Old World *Myotis* genomes. We demonstrate an extensive history of introgressive hybridization that has replaced the species phylogeny across 17%–93% of the genome except for pericentromeric regions of macrochromosomes. Introgression tracts were enriched on microchromosome regions containing key antiviral pathway genes overexpressed during viral challenge experiments. Together, these results suggest that the unusual *Myotis* karyotype may have evolved to selectively position immune-related genes in high recombining genomic regions prone to introgression of divergent alleles, including a diversity of interleukin loci responsible for the release of pro-inflammatory cytokines.

INTRODUCTION

The observation that several bat species are tolerant to some viruses of significant concern to human and animal health^{1,2} has led global public health initiatives to prioritize understanding the basis of this phenotype.³ Hypotheses for this enhanced tolerant, antiviral immunity include the coordinated evolution of bat flight,⁴ unique immune system adaptations, and bat/virus coevolution.^{2,5–9} The hypothesized coevolution of bats and viruses^{1,10} suggests that interrogating phylogenomic discordance may be instrumental in understanding the genetic basis of viral tolerance. Resolved species-level phylogenies may also aid in monitoring future disease emergence through the identification of related species that host similar viruses.¹¹ *Myotis* bats comprise the most species-rich bat genus and have an almost global distribution.¹² However, their phylogenomic relationships lack consensus, most likely due to some combination of gene flow and incomplete lineage sorting during their evolution, the resolution of which has been hampered by limited surveys of genomic variation.^{12–15}

Adaptive introgression of immune loci is frequently observed between species pairs across the mammalian phylogeny.^{16–20} Additionally, mating strategy has been shown to result in systematic differences in immune responses, conferring enhanced protection against sexually transmitted diseases in promiscuous primates and adenovirus infection in promiscuous bats.^{21,22} Temperately distributed bats, including numerous *Myotis* species, exhibit autumnal swarming, a cryptic behavior where large, multi-species assemblages gather for mating.²³ During the swarming period between August and October, thousands of bats from multiple bat genera form nightly gatherings at cave entrances.²⁴ At these transient meetings, bats exhibit intense flight activity, chasing, and increased communication, including echolocation and human-audible social calls, which facilitate interspecific communication.^{24–26} Additionally, these assemblages are typically 80% male biased,^{27,28} suggesting intense competition for mates.²⁹ Although the phenology of swarming varies by species, elevation, and seasonal timing,^{26,30,31} many bat species and genera still overlap at swarming sites.

Initially, the purpose of swarming was thought to be locating suitable hibernation sites and orienting juveniles to their whereabouts.²⁵ Later, swarming was shown to facilitate gene flow between isolated populations of the same species.³² Most recently, genetic analyses of microsatellites have suggested that swarming may promote interspecific hybridization among *Myotis* species, but the strength and consistency of this process during the evolution of the genus is unknown.²³ We hypothesized that an excess of historical gene flow, facilitated by swarming, has contributed to the acquisition and maintenance of novel and divergent genomic diversity. Some of this novel variation may include immune gene loci that enhance viral tolerance.

RESULTS

Whole-genome phylogenies

To test this hypothesis, we sequenced and aligned 60 new *Myotis* genomes representing 42 species to a chromosome-level long-read reference genome assembly for *Myotis myotis* (Tables S1 and S2).³³ We improved this assembly by initially using the associated gene annotation and previously generated ZooFISH maps³⁴ to predict the location of unassigned scaffolds.

The original Hi-C data³³ were remapped to the assembly, and assignments were made if contacts in the Juicebox Analysis Toolkit^{35,36} matched predictions made by the ZooFISH and gene annotation analysis. In this way, we placed 37 scaffolds that were previously chromosomally unassigned (Table S3). Notably, these contained large clusters of immune-related genes (e.g., major histocompatibility complex [MHC], immunoglobulin heavy-chain genes, and interleukin receptors) (Figure S1), which have previously been implicated in adaptive introgression.^{37,38} Our analysis localized these scaffolds predominantly to chromosome ends, which typically possess elevated recombination rates (Figure S2).

To establish a baseline phylogeny for the Old World *Myotis*, we sampled phylogenomic signal across the chromosome alignments, analyzing 1,463,340 single-nucleotide variants (SNVs) with site pattern frequency-based coalescent methods in SVDquartets.³⁹ The same dataset was also concatenated to generate a maximum likelihood tree using IQ-TREE 2.⁴⁰ The concatenation- and coalescent-based SNV phylogenies were highly congruent. Both trees identified six primary Old World *Myotis* clades (Figure 1A) and differed only in the positions of the whiskered and muricola clades and a few rogue taxa, including *M. annatessae* and *M. welwitschii* (Figures 1A and S3). By contrast, there was a considerable degree of phylogenomic conflict between the nuclear and mitogenome topologies. Widespread clade switching occurred for several focal species (Figures 1A and 1B), similar to results from small-scale analyses of nuclear and mitochondrial gene fragments (Figures 1B, 1C, and S4).¹² Resolving the basis for this discordance was critical to distinguishing species relationships and associations that may arise due to gene flow and other types of phylogenetic noise.^{41–45}

Mitochondrial discordance is generally predictive of gene flow in other mammals, although there are some exceptions.^{46,47} Among species with a history of post-speciation gene flow, it has been demonstrated that the species tree is not the dominant

phylogenomic signal across the genome.^{42,43} However, majority-rule phylogenomic approaches assume that the most frequent topology represents the species tree and therefore often mask underlying signatures of discordance.^{41,43,44} In several hybridizing radiations, episodes of post-speciation gene flow have erased the historical branching events of the species tree from large swaths of the genome.^{42,43,45} Therefore, we implemented a recombination-aware locus tree approach, which has proved crucial to distinguishing the phylogenetic signal of speciation from introgression.

All surveyed *Myotis* species shared an identical G-banded karyotype ($2n = 44$) except *M. annectans*, with ($2n = 46$),^{34,48} an interesting trait given that animal radiations with histories of post-speciation gene flow typically possess conserved karyotypes.^{41–43,49} The *Myotis* karyotype is also unusual among mammals, comprising three large autosomes (~228–217 Mb) and 18 much smaller chromosomes (~108–14 Mb) (Figure 2A),³⁴ which superficially resemble macro- and microchromosomes commonly observed in avian and reptilian karyotypes.^{50,51} We used ReLERNN,⁵² a deep learning approach, to infer a sex-averaged recombination map for *M. myotis* (Figure S5). A comparative analysis indicated the recombination landscape is conserved between *M. brandtii* and *M. myotis* (Figure S6). Therefore, we proceeded to use the *M. myotis* map as a representative for all *Myotis*. Low recombining regions were narrowly restricted to the pericentromeric regions of the largest macrochromosomes (V1, V3, and V5) and the X chromosome (chrX) (Figure 2B). The highest recombination rates were predictably found on the smallest autosomes, which also exhibit elevated gene densities and GC content (Figure 2C), similar to the microchromosomes of birds and some reptiles.^{50,51}

Recombination-aware phylogenomics

To investigate phylogenomic variation across the recombination landscape, we computed 36,264 maximum likelihood (ML) locus trees for 60 species from the whole-genome dataset using the GTR + GHOST model of rate heterogeneity⁵³ in IQ-TREE 2 from 50 kilobase (kb) alignment windows covering 91% of the *M. myotis* genome. The GHOST model was chosen given that recent studies have demonstrated that some tests of introgression are highly sensitive to rate variation across clades.⁵⁴ Ten subtrees (Table S4) were pruned from these datasets to determine the genomic stability of relationships among the principal clades and between individual species whose positions were difficult to resolve in the whole-genome and mitogenome analyses (Figures 1A and 1B). These analyses revealed widespread locus tree discordance otherwise masked in the whole-genome concatenation and coalescence phylogenies (Figures 3 and S7–S15). Locus tree frequencies varied markedly between chrX and the autosomes and between high and low recombining regions (Figure S16).

Phylogenomic relationships within the whiskered bats and most *Myotis* clades exhibited asymmetric tree topology frequencies, considered one of the clearest indicators of the presence of gene flow (Figures 3 and S16).⁵⁵ Previous studies have shown that in the presence of gene flow, the species tree is enriched in low recombining regions of the genome (particularly pericentromeric regions and the chrX) (Figure S17), while trees

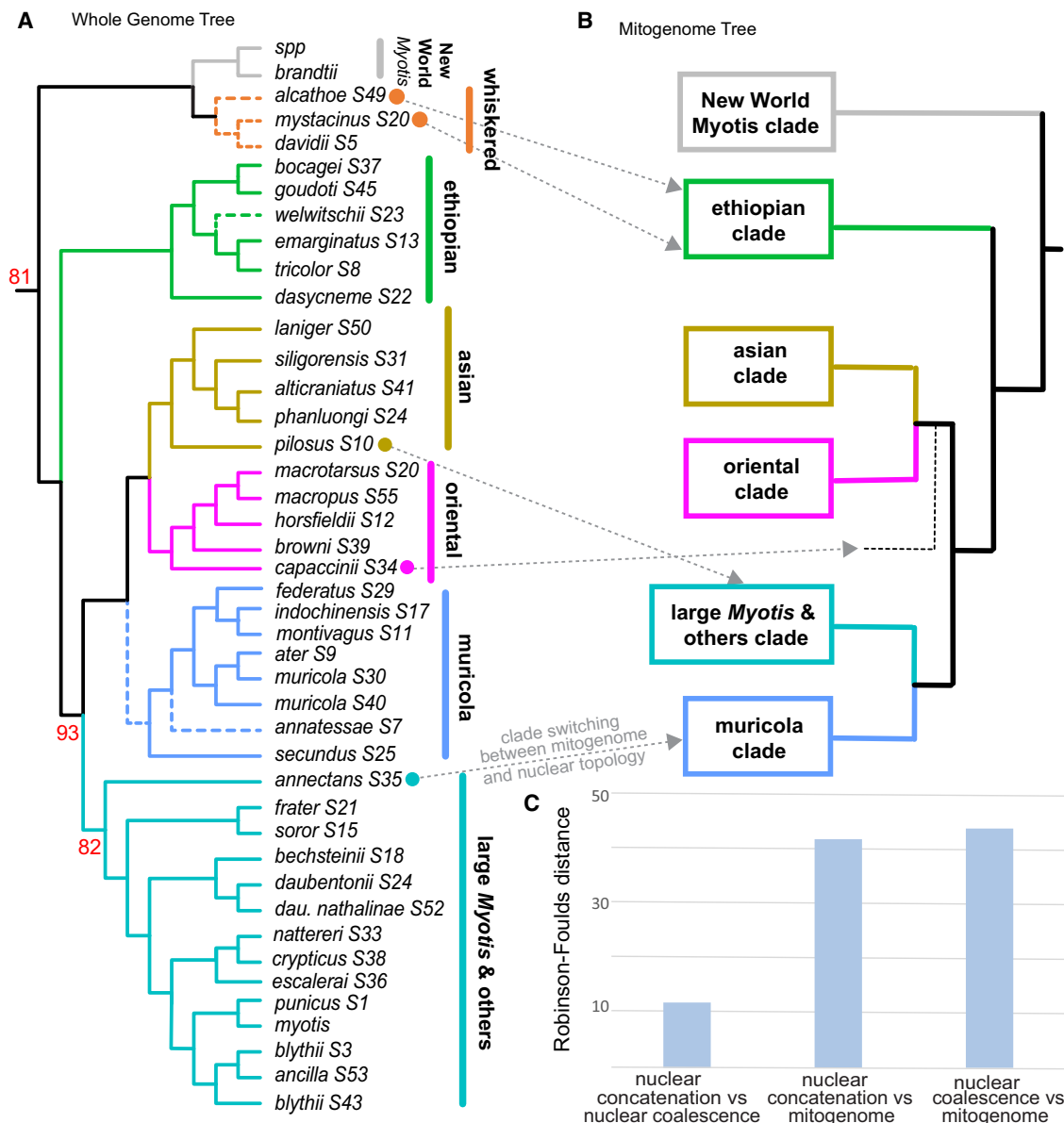


Figure 1. Clade switching between the whole-genome nuclear and mitogenome topologies

(A) Maximum likelihood cladogram from ~1.5 million genome-wide SNVs, showing only one sample per species where multiple exist. Bootstrap support is 100% for all nodes unless indicated otherwise. Dashed branches show which relationships differ between concatenation and coalescent analyses of the same dataset. Concatenation bootstrap values are shown in red.

(B) The mitogenome phylogeny is illustrated to highlight, via gray dashed arrows, clade switching relative to the nuclear phylogeny for the species indicated with colored dots.

(C) Robinson-Foulds (RF) distances between the nuclear and mitogenome topologies.

reflective of gene flow will be enriched in high recombining regions.^{41,43–45} Using a combined approach to infer the species tree, our distributions of phylogenomic signal were validated by three statistical measures that distinguish introgression from incomplete lineage sorting (ILS): (1) whole-genome *D*-statistics⁵⁶ (Table S5), (2) windowed *f*(*D*) statistics (Figures 3C, S16, and S17), and (3) QuIBL (Table S6). While *D*-statistics can yield insights into the genome-wide presence of introgression, *f*(*D*) can provide information on more precise genomic locations

of introgression. QuIBL takes a distribution of internal branch lengths from a set of locus trees and uses a coalescence-based model to infer the proportion of locus trees derived from introgression or ILS. For the whiskered clade, topology 1 (*t*₁) is most frequent in low recombining regions and in regions with reduced introgression, while *t*₂ becomes more frequent in introgressed, high recombining regions (Figure 3B). Similar observations across numerous eukaryotic clades have increasingly demonstrated the predictive power of using regions of low

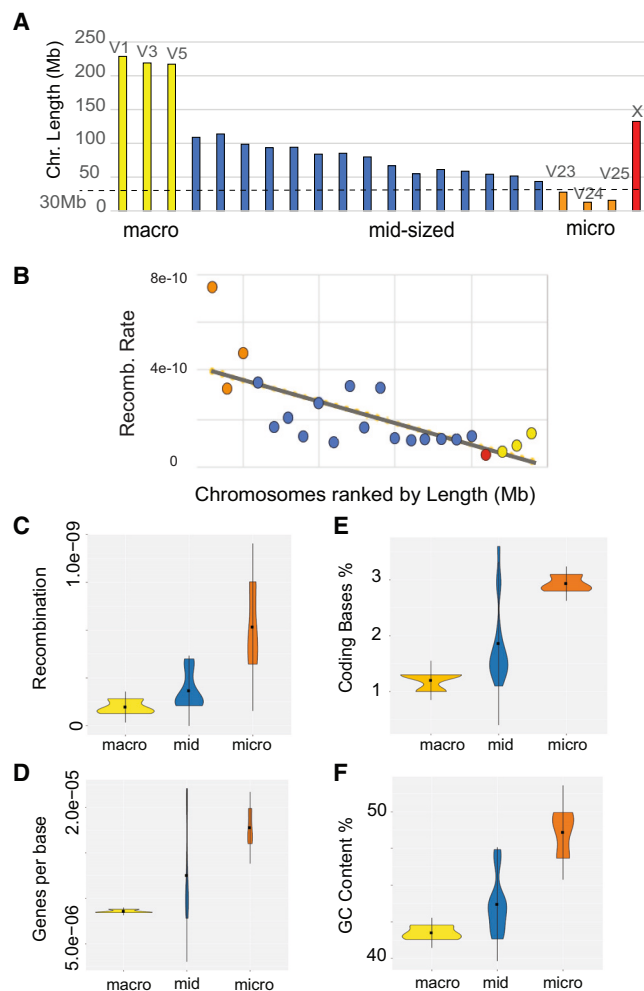


Figure 2. An unusual mammalian karyotype

(A) The dashed line indicates 30 Mb, which previous studies have used as a cutoff to define microchromosomes.⁵⁰
(B) Chromosome length is inversely related to recombination rate.
(C–F) Comparison of recombination rate (C), genes per base (D), coding bases (E), and GC content (F) between macro-, mid-sized, and microchromosomes.

recombination to infer the species tree, as they are depleted of ILS and gene flow.^{41,43–45,57–60}

Remarkably, the inferred species tree uniting the whiskered clade with New World species was restricted to less than ~60% of the genome, clustering in the pericentromeric regions of the three macrochromosomes, and chrX, which possessed the lowest rates of recombination (Figures 3 and S16). This pattern, as well as patterns of alpha and internal branch length (ibl) parameter distributions along chromosomes (Figure 3C), was mirrored in a highly predictable manner across other *Myotis* clades (Figure S18) where the species tree was commonly observed in less than 50% of the genome. Crucially, there are numerous differences between the recombination-aware inferred species tree (Figure 4A) and the whole-genome concatenation and coalescence analyses inferred from SNVs. *D*-statistics show that analyses of the genome-wide SNV dataset return

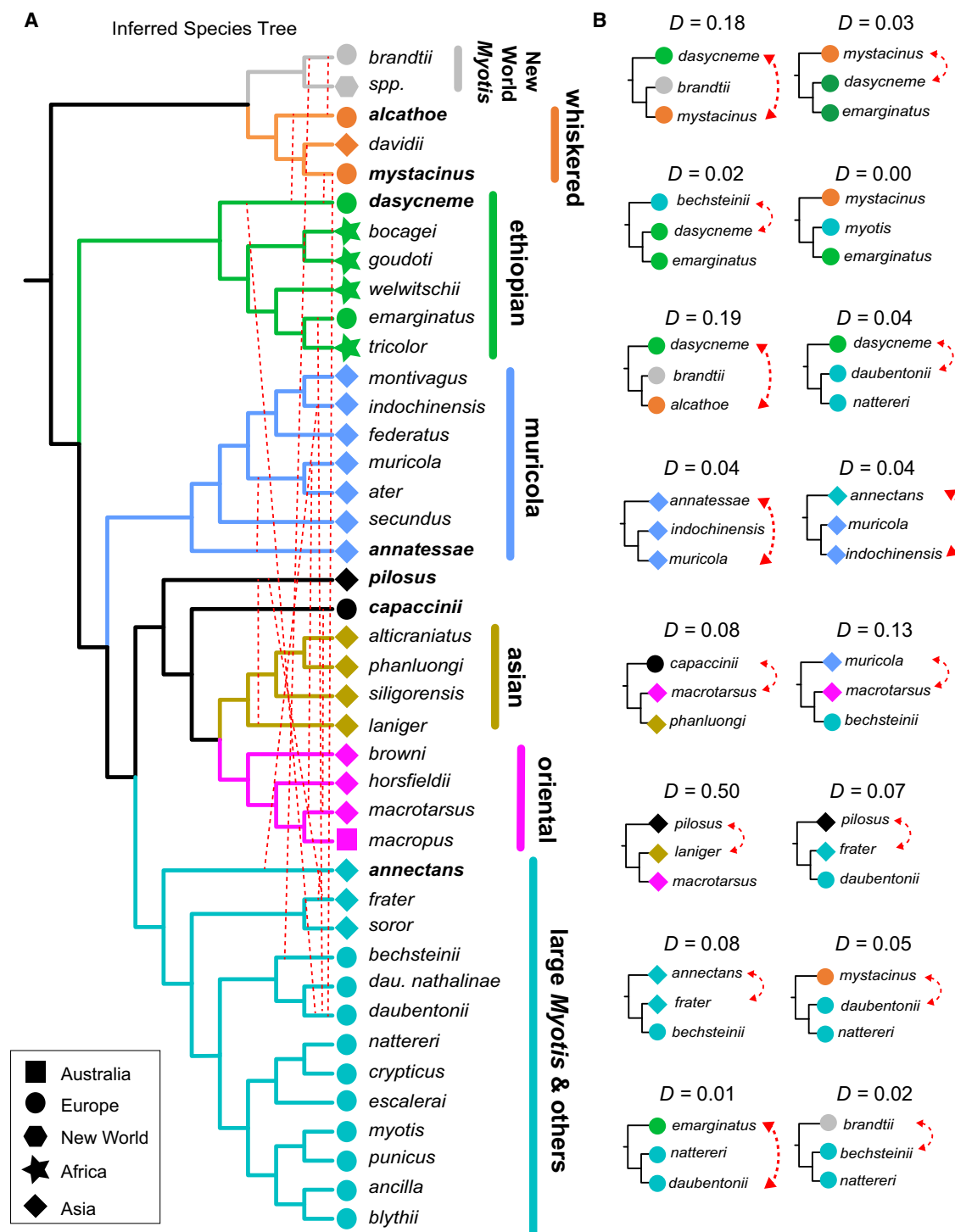
the most frequent introgressed topology for the relationships between the muricola, large myotis, Asian, and Oriental clades, the respective positions of *M. annatessae*, *M. capaccinii*, and *M. pilosus*, and the relationship among *M. pilosus*, *M. capaccinii*, and *M. laniger* (Figure 4B; Table S5). *D*-statistics and QuIBL (Table S6) also show that clade switching between nuclear and mitogenome topologies (Figure 1B) is due to historical interclade introgression likely due to range overlap between Asian-distributed *M. annectans* and *M. indochinensis* (Figure 4).

Previous studies have demonstrated that whole-genome *D*-statistics maintain sensitivity when there is up to 20% genetic distance among the ingroup species in the test⁶² and are also relatively robust to the genetic distance between the outgroup and ingroup species. In our analysis, the genetic distance between component species of Old and New World clades is ~16%, which spans the deepest divergence in our dataset. In conclusion, our findings support a scenario for Old World *Myotis* evolution where a long history of interspecific hybridization involving species from multiple clades has resulted in massive depletion of the species tree across the arms of the macrochromosomes increasing toward telomere ends, with a near-complete replacement by introgression signatures on the smallest microchromosomes.

A link between introgression and swarming behavior?

Introgression is exceptionally pervasive among *Myotis* bats, even when compared to other mammalian clades with histories of ancient introgressive hybridization.^{43,49,63} This may be due to the use of swarming behavior in many *Myotis* species. Swarming behavior is characterized by multi-species, male-biased mating assemblages often numbering from hundreds to thousands of individuals.²³ Many records of species present at swarming sites come from predominantly European studies and overlap our sampling (Figure 5A; Table S7). Therefore, we pruned subtrees derived from the 50 kb windows from the whole-genome 60 species sliding-windows dataset (Table S4) to test the hypothesis that hybridization is common among species within and between clades recorded at swarming sites (Figure 4B). Asymmetry in genome-wide frequency and *D*-statistics estimated among swarming species indicated that introgression was the dominant driver of phylogenetic discordance in these analyses (Figures 5B, S19, and S20). Additionally, we show that introgressed topologies with the highest *f*(*D*) values are the most enriched on microchromosomes (Figure S21). Introgression was observed not only among species within clades but also between species from divergent clades (Figure 5B), like the large *Myotis*, whiskered, and New World clades. Note, due to our sampling scheme, we could only infer the presence of historical introgression among *Myotis* species. Population-level data or data sampled from species found contemporaneously at swarming sites would be required to accurately determine the prevalence of ongoing hybridization at swarming sites, which has been documented for some of the species we sampled.^{15,63,64}

The Ethiopian clade (Figure 1A) contains important contrasts to other predominantly swarming *Myotis* clades. At least one species lacks swarming behavior: *M. bocagei* employs a harem system where a single male and 6–8 females gather in a banana leaf for mating.⁶⁵ This behavior should minimize the probability of introgression. Although not all mating strategies employed by



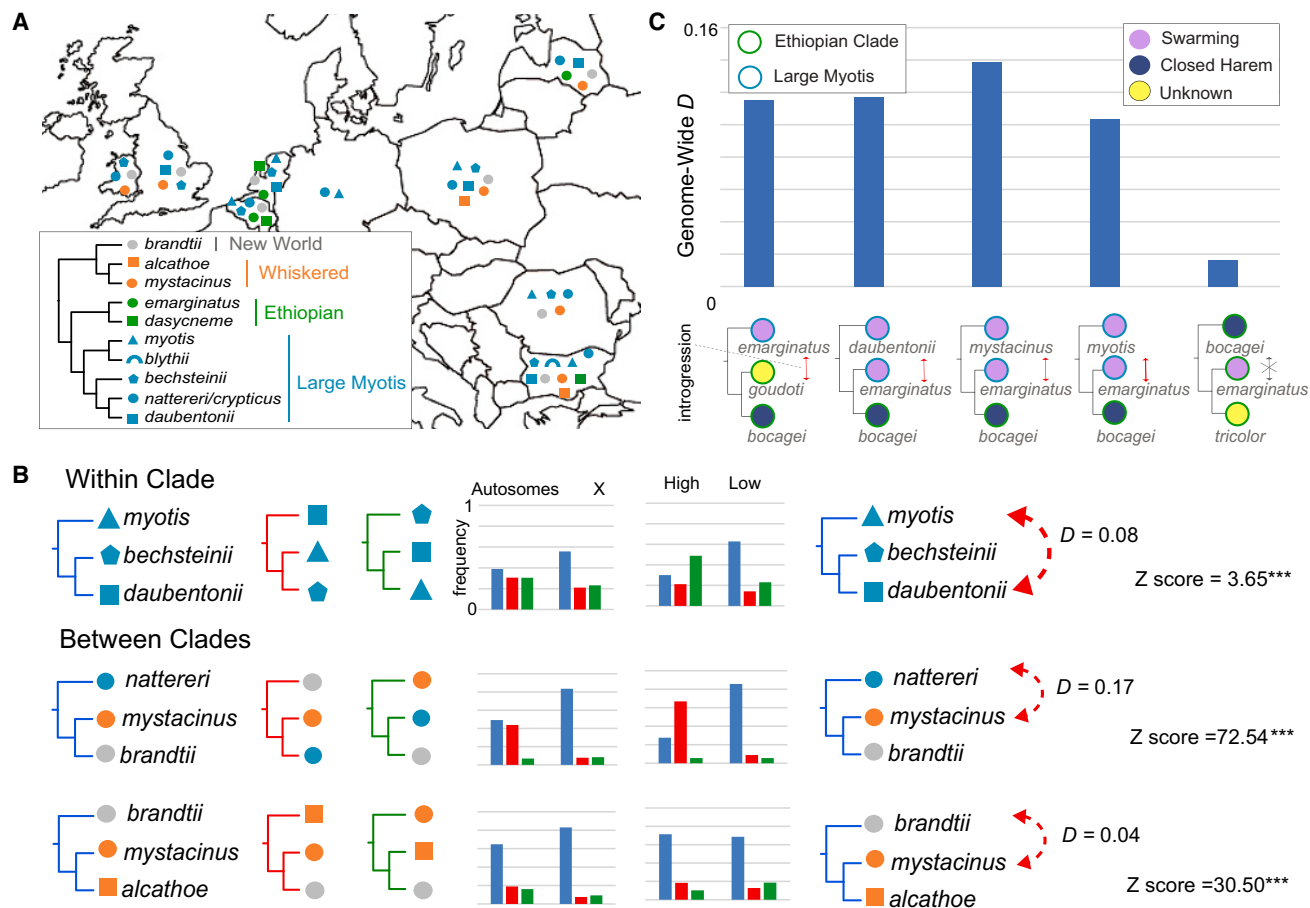


Figure 5. Introgression occurs among species that co-occur at swarming sites

(A) Species assemblages reported at swarming sites throughout Europe (Table S6). The tree inset shows the species tree and clade membership of each species. (B) Examples of within and between clade introgression. Variation in topological frequency is observed between autosomal, X, and high and low recombining genomic partitions. Whole-genome D -statistics demonstrate phylogenomic conflict is due to introgression. (C) Comparisons of the genome-wide D -statistic for species representing the large myotis clade, with a promiscuous mating system, and *M. bocagei* from the Ethiopian clade, which employs a conservative (closed harem) mating system. The same analysis was repeated using *M. yumanensis* as the reference genome to demonstrate that our results are not confounded by reference bias (Figure S25; Table S5). Trees for introgression tests are represented top to bottom in the format (H1, (H2, H3)), O, where the outgroup O (*S. latirostris*) is not shown. See Table S5 for detailed results.

microchromosome-linked genes *OAS1*, *OAS3*, and *OASL*, which exhibit up to a 6-fold change in expression in response to viral challenge.⁷⁰ Because one of the common outcomes of interspecific hybridization is altered gene expression,^{68,71–73} these results suggest that frequent hybridization-induced modulation of immune gene expression in bats might be adaptive and is worthy of further investigation in natural and experimental populations.

Recombination acts to break down introgressed haplotype blocks over time. While long blocks representing more recent introgression events are expected to be rare in our dataset due to low population genomic sampling, one of the largest haplotypes spans ~10 Mb on the subtelomeric region of V15 and possesses an introgressed topology uniting *M. myotis* and *M. daubentonii* (Figures 6 and S24). Measures of recombination rate, *ibl*, and *f(D)* were all elevated inside the block relative to the remainder of the chromosome. A STRING analysis of this haplo-

type block identified a significant enrichment (false discovery rate [FDR] < 0.05) of genes associated with cytokine receptor activity, the interleukin-36 pathway, and the interleukin-1 family signaling pathway (Table S8). *IL36* is notable as a member of the *IL1* superfamily of pro-inflammatory cytokines, which help regulate the adaptive and innate immune systems.⁷⁴ *IL36* promotes antiviral immunity by increasing cellular sensitivity to interferon⁷⁵ in human and mouse models to herpes simplex virus⁷⁵ and a host of other viruses.⁷⁴

DISCUSSION

Collectively, our results support a scenario where swarming-mediated interspecific hybridization can impact antiviral immune responses in bats. High rates of introgression have also been reported in animal clades where multiple, closely related species are present during mating, including species of *Stenella* and

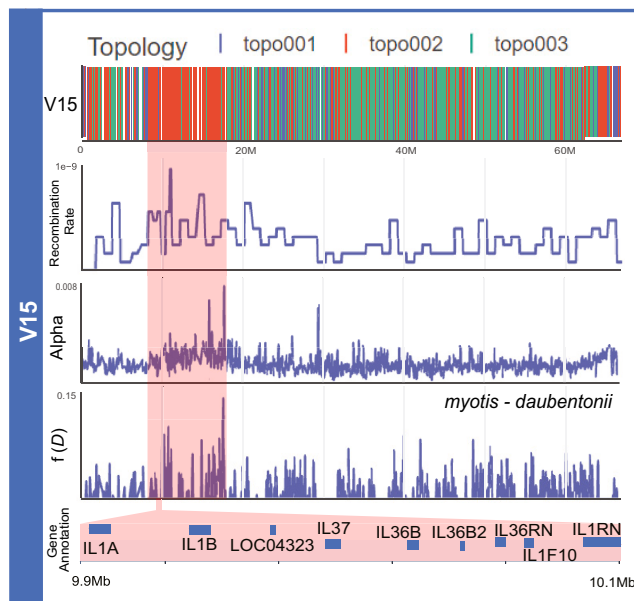


Figure 6. Evidence for a potential link between immunity and the recombination landscape in *Myotis* bats

Distribution of phylogenetic signal, recombination rate, ibl, and $f(D)$ values for chromosome V15 for the *bechsteinii* clade. A large introgressed block for *myotis* and *daubentonii* (Figure S24) is highlighted in red and is significantly enriched for *IL-36* and *IL-1* signaling pathways (FDR < 0.05) (Table S8).

Tursiops dolphins^{76–78} and *Anopheles* mosquitoes.^{42,79} Swarming has specifically contributed to the introgression-mediated evolution of insecticide resistance at several loci in anopheline mosquitoes.^{80,81} Promiscuous mating behaviors may frequently evolve to promote adaptive interspecific hybridization, providing access to divergent genomic variants and/or quantitative variation in gene expression as a rapid means to counter frequent and novel pathogen exposure.⁷¹ The extraordinarily large number of mammalian congeners present in large colonies of bats (sometimes thousands of individuals) and mating during swarming would impose a unique burden on mucosal viral immunity. Under this model, frequent introgression at swarming sites would conceivably afford myriad opportunities for adjusting viral symbiont management and/or defense mechanisms using pooled immunogenomic resources from species across the genus. As such, swarming behavior may have provided a singular opportunity for the evolution of a novel mechanism for viral management/symbiosis through introgression biased toward chromosome termini enriched for immune loci. Such innovations are not unprecedented in nature. Radical and profound innovations in immunogenetic diversification have previously evolved from horizontal genetic transfer in other taxa (Table S9)—for example, the CRISPR-Cas9 prokaryotic adaptive immune system from *IsCB* and *IS200/IS605* transposons⁸² and the somatic cell recombination capability of immunoglobulin and T cell receptor genes via domestication of *ProtoRAG* transposase⁸³ in an early chordate. Further investigations into understanding how karyotype evolution, the recombination rate landscape, and the introduction of divergent genomic variants via introgression

and/or ILS intersect to hone bats' genomes for viral and cancer tolerance may yield novel innovations for viral immunotherapeutics and even oncology.⁸⁴ Finally, our results suggest that swarming sites may merit recognition as special sites of conservation given the unique evolutionary processes to which they play host.^{23,28,31,85}

Limitations of the study

All data were mapped to *M. myotis*, which is part of the ingroup in our analysis, and so may lead to spurious inference of introgression due to reference bias. To account for this potentially confounding factor, we also mapped the data to the long-read *M. yumanensis* genome assembly⁸⁶ from the New World clade. Although this analysis confirmed our initial results for the Old World ingroup, ideally a closely related outgroup, which is roughly equidistant to all ingroup species, should be used to mitigate any potential reference bias and data loss due to mapping to a divergent reference genome. Our analysis was also constrained to the detection of historical introgression. Although some studies indicate that contemporary introgression occurs at swarming sites,²³ our dataset was not selected to formally test this hypothesis. Further comparative phylogenomic analyses of species with conservative and promiscuous mating behaviors would be useful to fully characterize the contribution of swarming behavior to introgression in bats.

STAR★METHODS

Detailed methods are provided in the online version of this paper and include the following:

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 - Improving the *Myotis myotis* reference genome
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 - Phylogenomics
 - Sliding windows
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 - Anti-viral immunity and introgression
 - Large introgressed haplotype blocks

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Supplemental information can be found online at <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.xgen.2023.100482>.

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AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Conceptualization, W.J.M. and N.M.F.; data curation, N.M.F. and K.R.B.; investigation, N.M.F., A.J.H., K.R.B., M.F.C., and W.J.M.; software, A.J.H.; project administration, W.J.M.; samples, M.R., S.J.P., and E.C.T.; writing – original draft, W.J.M. and N.M.F.; writing – review & editing, all authors.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The authors declare no competing interests.

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STAR★METHODS

KEY RESOURCES TABLE

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Deposited data		
HLmyoMyo6	Jebb et al. ³³	GCA_014108235.1
<i>Myotis myotis</i> Hi-C data	Jebb et al. ³³	SRR11732436
<i>Myotis myotis</i> ZooFISH map	Volleth et al. ³⁴	N/A
<i>Myotis yumanensis</i> reference genome	Curti et al. ⁸⁷	mMyoYum1.0.hap1
<i>Myotis myotis</i> SRA data	Zoonomia Consortium ⁸⁸	SRS3678524
List of differentially expressed genes from a study that treated <i>Myotis daubentonii</i> cell lines with a modified Rift Valley Fever virus or supplemented with IFN to measure response to a viral challenge	Holzer et al. ⁶⁹	Supplementary Material
WGS phylogenomic data generated in this study	This study	PRJNA1035163
WGS data used to generate <i>Myotis myotis</i> recombination map	This study	PRJNA1035163
WGS data used to generate <i>Myotis brandtii</i> recombination map	Laine et al. ⁸⁹	SRR18788643, SRR18788644, SRR18788646, SRR18788647
<i>Myotis myotis</i> recombination map	This study	https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7044479
<i>Myotis brandtii</i> recombination map	This study	https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7044479
Alignments	This study	https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7044479
Newick Tree files	This study	https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7044479
Software and algorithms		
Trim Galore! v0.6.5	Krueger et al. ⁹⁰	https://github.com/FelixKrueger/TrimGalore
bwa-mem v0.7.17	Li et al. ⁹¹ ; Li ⁹²	https://github.com/lh3/bwa
Qualimap	Garcia-Alcalde et al. ⁹³	http://qualimap.conesalab.org/
Samtools v1.9	Li et al. ⁹⁴	https://github.com/samtools/samtools
GATK v4.1.2	McKenna et al. ⁹⁵ ; DePrieto et al. ⁹⁶ ; Poplin et al. ⁹⁷ ; Van der Auwera et al. ⁹⁸	https://github.com/broadinstitute/gatk
ANGSD v0.916	Korneliussen et al. ⁵⁶	http://www.popgen.dk/angsd/index.php/Installation
SOAPdenovo2 vr242	Luo et al. ⁹⁸	https://github.com/aquaskyline/SOAPdenovo2
Geneious Prime 2019.04	Dotmatics	https://www.geneious.com/
RYcode	Braun et al. ⁹⁹	https://github.com/ebraun68/Rycode
IQtree2 v2.2.1	Minh et al. ⁴⁰	https://github.com/iqtree/iqtree2
Quast v5.2.0	Gurevich et al. ¹⁰⁰	https://github.com/ablab/quast
Bcftools v1.14	Danecek et al. ¹⁰¹	https://github.com/samtools/bcftools
VCFtools v1.16	Danecek et al. ¹⁰²	https://vcftools.sourceforge.net/
ReLERN	Adrian et al. ⁵²	https://github.com/kr-colab/ReLERN
SVDquartets	Chifman and Kubatko ³⁹	https://paup.phylosolutions.com/
SNP-sites v2.5.1	Page et al. ¹⁰³	v2.5.1
PAUP* v4a168	Posada et al. ¹⁰⁴	https://paup.phylosolutions.com/
trimAl v1.4.1	Capella-Gutierrez et al. ¹⁰⁵	https://vicero.github.io/trimAl/
Tree House Explorer (THEx)	Harris et al. ⁶¹	https://github.com/harris-2374/THEX
R v4.2.2	R Core Team ¹⁰⁶	https://www.r-project.org/
f(D)	Martin et al. ⁸⁷	https://github.com/simonhmartin/genomics_general

(Continued on next page)

Continued

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
QulBL	Edelman et al. ⁴¹	https://github.com/miriammiyagi/QulBL
STRING v12.0	Szkarczyk et al. ⁸⁷	https://string-db.org/
Dfoil	Pease and Hahn ⁸⁸	https://github.com/jbpease/dfoil
Critical commercial assays		
Qiagen Puregene kit	Qiagen	Cat. No./ID: 158063
NEBNext Ultra II DNA Library Prep Kit for Illumina	New England Biolabs	E7805L
NEBNext Multiplex Oligos for Illumina	New England Biolabs	E7600S

RESOURCE AVAILABILITY

Lead contact

Further information and requests for resources and reagents should be directed to and will be fulfilled by the lead contact, William Murphy (wmurphy@cvm.tamu.edu).

Materials availability

This study did not generate new unique reagents.

Data and code availability

All code used to generate the analysis is publicly available and are cited in the text. All short-read data generated as part of this study have been submitted to the NCBI Short Read Archive under the following BioProject PRJNA1035163. Recombination maps for *M. myotis* and *M. brandtii*, whole-genome SNP datasets used for concatenation and coalescence analyses, a FASTA-formatted version of the updated *M. myotis* genome assembly, and whole-genome alignments are deposited in the following Zenodo repository: <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7044479>. The updated *M. myotis* genome assembly can be found under BioProject PRJNA628559.

METHOD DETAILS

Taxonomic sampling and sequencing

We isolated genomic DNA from museum specimens, sampling 58 individual bats, putatively representing 58 individuals and 42 putative Old World *Myotis* species for the ingroup, selected to index the major clades and nodes in the tree.¹² An unknown New World species, *Myotis* spp. (see below), and *Submyotodon latirostris* were also sequenced as outgroup species (Table S1). BLASTn¹⁰⁷ was used to try determine a more specific nomenclature for *Myotis* spp. using the mitogenome and Cyt-b sequences derived from this sample. The top hit for the mitogenome was *Myotis martiniquensis* with 94.6% pairwise identity and 91.81% query coverage. The top hit for the Cyt-b sequence was the GenBank: JN020572, a *Myotis* sp. individual from Suriname which grouped in a clade including *Myotis nyctor* and *Myotis nesopolus* in the following analysis.¹⁰⁸ Pairwise identity was 94.7% and query coverage was 99.91%.

DNA was extracted using the Qiagen Puregene kit following the manufacturer's protocol, except 10μL of linear acrylamide was added to the lysis buffer to aid the recovery of DNA from small starting amounts of tissue. Standard Illumina fragment libraries (300-bp) were prepared for each DNA sample using the NEBNext Ultra II DNA Library Prep Kit for Illumina. Samples were sequenced to ~20× genome-wide depth of coverage with 2 × 150-bp reads on the Illumina HiSeq X platform. We combined these data with published genomes from two other bat species: *Myotis brandtii*¹⁰⁹ and *Myotis myotis*.

Sequence QC and read mapping

Raw reads were trimmed using Trim Galore (http://www.bioinformatics.babraham.ac.uk/projects/trim_galore). All but one species of *Myotis* possess a karyotype of 2n = 44, the exception being *Myotis annectans* (2n = 46). G-banding similarities indicate a high degree of collinearity across the genus.⁴⁸ All trimmed and filtered reads, using default trimgalore parameters,⁹⁰ were mapped to the *Myotis myotis* reference genome, HLmyoMyo6. Sequence alignment was carried out using bwa-mem^{91,92} using the -M and -R parameters. Mapping results were evaluated and summarized using the Qualimap function bamqc.⁹³ Samtools⁹⁴ was used to remove duplicate reads. Local realignment and variant calling was performed using GATK.^{95–98} Consensus pseudohaploid variants were called for each species using ANGSD⁵⁶ where the minimum required mapping quality was 30 and minimum base quality of 20. Short-read Illumina assemblies struggle to accurately resolve highly repetitive and duplicated regions within a genome. This can introduce erroneous variant calls which can confound branch length inference in downstream phylogenomic analyses. To control for this, we also used ANGSD to identify and exclude all alignment regions with read depth greater than 200% of the average coverage per genome and positions with a minimum depth of 5 reads. Average mapped read depth and the proportion of the reference covered by mapped reads was calculated to assess the degree of missing data per species across the genome (Table S2)

Mitogenome assembly and analysis

To avoid incorporating nuclear copies of mitochondrial genes in our mitogenome assemblies, we aimed to sample small subsets of reads to capture only reads belonging to the mitochondria, as nuclear copies of mitochondrial genes would be rare in such small subsets. Random subsets (2, 4, and 8 million) of raw reads were extracted for each sample and trimmed as described above. SOAPdenovo2¹¹⁰ was used to assemble the mitogenome by evaluating a range of k-mer sizes (71, 81, and 91), with a read length of 150bp and 300bp as the insert size; all other parameters were set to default. Typically, the longest scaffold represented the majority of the assembled mitogenome. The assembly of the highly repetitive D Loop region was incomplete and highly variable across species and so was excluded from further analysis. To orient, annotate and align scaffolds for downstream analyses, each scaffold was mapped to the *M. myotis* mitogenome,¹¹¹ with a final alignment of ~17kb. Coding regions were extracted from the mitogenome using Geneious Prime 2019.04. Coding regions were RY coded using RYcode (<https://github.com/ebraun68/RYcode>)⁹⁹ to reduce the potential impact of compositional bias.¹¹² Alignments were then concatenated to form a single matrix. We prepared a second mitochondrial dataset which included the whole mitogenome, D Loop excluded. For both datasets, a Maximum likelihood (ML) tree was generated using IQtree2⁴⁰ under a GTR+I+G4 model of sequence evolution. The tree was evaluated with 1000 bootstrap replicates using the ultrafast bootstrap approximation (Figure S4).^{113,114}

Improving the *Myotis myotis* reference genome

The reference genomes for bats described in³³ reported 96–99% of data assembled to ‘chromosome-level scaffolds’. However, upon examination of the assembly for key regions like the pseudoautosomal region and the major histocompatibility complex (MHC) locus, we determined that many genic regions were not assembled on chromosomes and would limit downstream inferences. We used two complementary approaches to further improve the completeness of the chromosome-level scaffolds. First, we used the gene annotation and a previously published ZOO-FISH map of human autosomal probes painted on *Myotis myotis* autosomes³⁴ to predict, based on gene content, which scaffolds in the HLmyoMyo6 assembly corresponded to chromosome paints in the ZOO-FISH map. We re-mapped the original *Myotis myotis* Hi-C (SRR11732436) data to test these predictions and re-scaffolded HLmyoMyo6 (GCA_014108235.1).³³ The Hi-C contact map was visualized using Juicebox.³⁶ We searched for contacts uniting scaffold associations identified using the gene annotations and ZOO-FISH maps and adjusted the assembly accordingly. This way, more data were assigned to chromosomes, most often to chromosome ends (Figure S2). Differences between the original assembly and the improved version are summarized via Quast¹⁰⁰ in Table S3. Assembling regions with high rates of recombination regions is key to polarizing and accurately interpreting the distribution of phylogenomic signal. Further, we noted that many previously unassigned scaffolds contained immune genes, including the Major Histocompatibility Complex (MHC) and immunoglobulin clusters (Figure S1), genomic regions of particular interest given bats’ exceptional immunity¹¹⁵ and role in emerging pathogens.¹¹⁶ Placing these important genomic regions in the correct genomic context furthers our understanding of the evolution of immune genes in bats.

A recombination map for *Myotis myotis*

We generated a recombination map for *M. myotis* to help interpret the chromosomal distribution of phylogenomic signal in our data. Studies have shown that hybridization occurs between the closely related sister species *M. myotis* and *Myotis blythii*, where they occur in sympatry throughout much of South and Central Europe.^{117,118} To avoid bias due to potential genomic introgression between the species, we selected bats from Brittany, north-west France, which occur outside the range of *M. blythii*. Procedures were approved and permits were issued by ‘Arrete’ by the Prefet du Morbihan. *M. myotis* were sampled in western France, 2013 from three roost locations Ferel (FER), La Roche Bernard (LRB) and Beganne (BEG). Bats were captured in custom harp traps as they left the roost and were placed in individual cloth bags until sampled. A 3mm biopsy punch was obtained from the wing membrane. Samples were flash frozen in liquid nitrogen. Before release all bats were offered food and water. As the recombination landscape of genomes has been shown to vary between different sexes of the same species,¹¹⁹ we selected samples from two males MMY78 (LRB) and MMY243 (BEG) and one female (MMY4) to construct a sex averaged map.

DNA was extracted, and Illumina libraries were prepared and sequenced as described above. Raw reads were filtered, and mapped to the *M. myotis* reference genome, and the resulting bam files were processed with GATK as before. Variants were called, and all samples were jointly genotyped, then filtered to remove variants in repeatmasked regions using GATK. Variants were further filtered, removing variants within 5bps of an indel and those which did not meet the following quality criteria -e’%QUAL<30 | INFO/DP < 16 | INFO/DP > 62 | QD < 2 | FS > 60 | SOR>10 | ReadPosRankSum <-8 | MQRankSum <-12.5 | MQ < 40’ in bcftools (<https://github.com/samtools/bcftools>).¹⁰¹ VCFtools (https://vcftools.github.io/man_latest.html) was used to remove indels, leaving 12,273,471 biallelic SNPs (referred to as Mm recombination dataset) for further analysis. ReLERNN, a deep learning approach that uses recurrent neural networks, was used to model the genome-wide recombination rate for *M. myotis*. The average mammalian mutation rate 2.2×10^{-9} ¹²⁰ was used for this analysis. ReLERNN was run using the simulate, train, predict and bsccorrect modules with default settings. Finally, inferred recombination rates were averaged in 2Mb blocks in 50kb sliding windows for use in downstream analyses.

To determine if the *Myotis myotis* recombination landscape was representative of the overall *Myotis* recombination landscape we used the same methods to generate a recombination map for the New World species, *Myotis brandtii*.⁸⁹ Publicly available SRA data were mapped to the *Myotis brandtii* pseudohaploid assembly generated as part of this study.

Phylogenomics

Coalescent and concatenation whole-genome phylogenies

SVDquartets³⁹ was chosen as the coalescence-based species tree approach to satisfy the assumption of no intra-locus recombination under the Multispecies Coalescent model (MSC). Variant sites were used to impute quartet trees which were then aggregated to infer a species tree. Many published coalescence-based analyses have included or been comprised only of protein coding regions or ultraconserved elements, thereby violating the MSC's neutrality assumption. Variable sites were extracted from the per chromosome fasta alignments in vcf format using SNP-sites v2.5.1.¹⁰³ Variable sites were thinned to a minimum of 1000bp between sites using VCFtools v1.16¹⁰² and were converted to nexus format using the script vcf2phyliip.py (<https://github.com/edgardomortiz/vcf2phyliip>). By using widely spaced variable sites, we aimed to account for the requirement of free recombination between loci, an assumption of coalescent methods like SVDquartets. The dataset was further filtered on missingness, stripping columns from the alignment with more than 10% missingness. While data were initially thinned to a minimum distance of 1000bp apart to avoid intralocus recombination, the final distance between most variable sites is likely much larger. Data from all chromosomes were concatenated using Geneious Prime 2019.04 for a final dataset comprising 1,463,340 SNVs (referred to as the genome-wide SNV dataset). A 50% majority rule tree was estimated using SVDquartets implemented in PAUP* v4a168¹⁰⁴ using the QFM quartet amalgamation technique, sampling 99% of quartets.

The same genome-wide SNV dataset was concatenated into a supermatrix and analyzed with IQtree2 to generate a corresponding ML tree. Given that our nuclear datasets contained variable sites only, we used the +ASC option to correct for ascertainment bias due to the exclusion of constant sites in our analyses. Trees were analyzed as a single partition using a GTR + I + G model of sequence evolution to facilitate the use of the +ASC option. The +ASC option is currently incompatible with more complex mixture models. Trees were evaluated with 1000 bootstrap replicates using the ultrafast bootstrap approximation.^{113,114}

Sliding windows

Many phylogenomic studies show that phylogenetic signal is non-randomly distributed throughout the genome. To sample phylogenomic signal, we performed a sliding window-based analysis signal across the 60-species whole genome alignment (referred to as the whole-genome dataset). Alignments were divided into 50-kb nonoverlapping, contiguous windows across the entire genome. Alignment columns were filtered in trimAl¹⁰⁵ using the setting `-gt 0.50` to allow only 50% missing data per alignment column and an alignment filtering script (<https://github.com/VCMason/Foley2021>) with the following parameters: cutoff = 0.02, Z score = 0.5, windowsize = 50, step = 1, *Myotis myotis* as the reference and PCcutoff = 50, where an alignment is excluded if one species is missing more than 50% than the total alignment length. After filtering, only windows retaining 10kb or more data were retained for further analysis. Maximum Likelihood locus trees were generated using IQtree2 under a GTR model of sequence evolution and the GHOST model of rate variation (GTR*H4). Trees were evaluated with 1000 bootstrap replicates using the ultrafast bootstrap approximation.^{113,114} Relationships for the difficult-to-resolve relationships were summarized in subtrees extracted from the whole-genome dataset (Figure 1; Table S4). Data were visualized using Tree House Explorer (THEx).⁶¹

Detection of gene flow

Introgression causes phylogenomic distortion.^{121,122} In a recent review, Hibbins and Hahn stated, “asymmetry in [the frequencies of] discordant tree topologies is one of the clearest signals of introgression”.⁵⁵ Following this and other studies,^{41,43} we estimated the relative frequency of each topology for the autosomes and X separately. We also investigated the relationship between recombination rate and phylogenomic signal by calculating the frequencies of topologies in high and low recombining regions, defined as 500 windows at either end of the distribution of recombination rates.

Models of rate heterogeneity are fitted to data as part of some tree-building procedures to account for rate variation among sites. Simulations and empirical studies have shown that genome regions subject to introgression have elevated rate heterogeneity due to the accumulation of discordant donor sites in these regions. Potential introgression regions can be identified via the alpha (or shape) parameter, which is estimated as part of fitting gamma models of rate heterogeneity. Alpha parameters are lower in regions of potential introgression as multiple changes are required to account for apparent homoplasy.^{122,123} To estimate the alpha parameter per locus, alignments used to generate the 60 species locus trees pruned to represent subtrees (Table S4). As the GHOST model of rate heterogeneity was used to estimate locus trees, we re-ran IQtree2 for alignment loci to fit a gamma model of rate heterogeneity to the data. The alpha parameter, number of parsimony informative sites, and the sum of internal and external branch lengths per locus were extracted from the output using the bash command grep.

The combined effect of introgression and recombination can create local patchworks of phylogenomic histories, resulting in discordant tree topologies and branch lengths. The degree of discordance varies depending on the timing and direction of introgression and the relationship between hybridizing taxa.⁵⁵ Introgression between sister taxa will not produce discordant topologies but will result in compressed branch lengths or divergence times. Introgression among non-sister species will create discordant topologies with much older or much younger branch lengths or divergence times depending on the direction and age of the introgression events.⁵⁵ As such, we examined the genome-wide distribution of internal branch lengths extracted from quartet topologies using the ape package¹²⁴ in R.¹⁰⁶ Given the extreme morphological conservation observed among *Myotis* bats¹² we did not formally estimate divergence times given the difficulty in accurately assigning fossils branches in this phylogeny, particularly in the presence of

gene flow. In lieu of this, we examined the distribution of internal branch lengths to determine the distorting effect of introgression. In a divergence time analysis, the rate of substitution per site is simply scaled to time, thereby reflecting similar information.

Rather than relying solely upon genome-wide tests of introgression,¹²⁵ which do not identify specific regions of admixture, we used $f(D)$,⁸⁷ which provides a point estimate of the admixture proportion at a given locus. More specifically, given a tree $((p_1, p_2), p_3), O$, $f(D)$ describes the quantification of excess shared variation between p_2 and p_3 that is also not shared with p_1 . This approach also allows for the possibility of bidirectional introgression on a site-by-site basis. To test for evidence of admixture, we calculated $f(D)$ for trios of species and an outgroup corresponding to the two most frequent introgressed topologies from each clade (Table S5). The whole-genome dataset chromosome alignments were pruned to the trio, and the outgroup and biallelic SNPs were called using SNPsites.¹⁰³ $f(D)$ was calculated using scripts from (https://github.com/simonhmartin/genomics_general) following (https://github.com/simonhmartin/tutorials/blob/master/ABBA_BABA_windows/README.md). Introgression was estimated in 10kb windows requiring a minimum of 250 SNPs per window as a cut-off for analysis.

Given that $f(D)$ can underestimate introgression if all three species in the ingroup taxa hybridize, we also used QuIBL⁴¹ to determine to what extent discordance could be explained by ILS and introgression. This approach uses the distribution of internal branch lengths to distinguish between these two processes. Under ILS, internal branch lengths are expected to be exponentially distributed, while internal branches derived from introgressed regions will have a distribution with a non-zero mode.⁴¹ The fit of models where all discordance is due to ILS or a mixture of ILS and introgression are compared via likelihood, and the proportion of trees that best fit either model are returned. Trees were pruned to a trio of focal species and an outgroup and run through QuIBL using default parameters.

To determine if there was a difference in the probability of the admixture between related species based on mating behavior, we estimated D the whole genome statistic used to detect introgression among species, in the form $((H_1, H_2), H_3), O$, where O is the outgroup *S. latirostris* in all cases. Within the Ethiopian Clade, *M. bocagei* uses a harem-based mating strategy where one male and several females gather in a banana leaf for mating. Conversely, *M. emarginatus* is frequently reported at swarming sites in Europe. Using subsets of the whole-genome dataset, a suite of whole genome D statistics¹²⁵ were calculated in Dfoil⁸⁸ using mode = dstat and all other default parameters for all trees shown in Figure 5C which are shown in the format (outgroup, (P1, (P2, P3))). We varied the individual used to represent *M. bocagei*, the position of species in the tree and varied the third species selected in addition to *M. bocagei* and *M. emarginatus* to represent a variety of species which have been found to co-occur with *M. emarginatus* at swarming sites or are within the Ethiopian clade, but the status of their mating behavior is unknown.

To investigate if our results were impacted by reference bias, we repeated the analysis described above, but instead mapped the data to both the *Myotis myotis* reference genome and the *Myotis yumanensis* reference genome (mMyoYum1.0.hap1).⁸⁶ As a member of the New World clade, *M. yumanensis* is roughly equally distant from all Old World species and so could be used to detect any possible bias from using a nested ingroup species as the reference. ABBA-BABA or whole genome D -statistics were estimated using ANGSD⁵⁶ for combinations of BAM files resulting in highly similar estimates of D and Z-scores, indicating the negligible impact of reference bias. As such, the remainder of introgression tests were conducted with data mapped to the *M. myotis* reference genome. To investigate if sampling a different individual from the same species changed our introgression results, we mapped an additional *M. myotis* individual (NCBI: SRS3678524)¹²⁶ and used this individual in our re-analysis. These results also showed negligible differences to our original results (Figures 5C and S25; Table S5).

Hybridization at swarming sites?

Typically swarming is thought to be limited to temperate bat species. However, data on the mating behavior of bats are limited and not widely known in families with large numbers of species. To better investigate this, we performed a literature search and aggregated data from multiple studies reporting species compositions at swarming sites across Europe (Table S7). As before, subtrees corresponding to the species which swarm within and between clades (Figure 5B) were pruned from the 60 species sliding windowed phylogenies derived from analyses of subsets of the whole-genome dataset. The number and frequency of genome-wide topologies were estimated using THEX.⁶¹ Given the observed asymmetry in topology frequencies, introgression was determined to be the most likely source of phylogenomic discordance. To test this, we calculated whole genome D -statistics (Figure 5B) and windowed $f(D)$ statistics (Figure S17) for trios of species and an outgroup corresponding to the two most frequent introgressed topologies using data derived from the whole-genome dataset.

Anti-viral immunity and introgression

Given that immune loci are frequently introgressed among mammals,⁶⁶ we sought to determine if genes associated with anti-viral immunity were introgressed in our dataset. Although the interferon pathway is a conserved anti-viral innate immune pathway, most species possess a repertoire of genes adapted for anti-viral defense. Given that standard gene enrichment analyses rely on data and function information for the best-studied model organisms, a traditional enrichment analysis would likely omit *Myotis*-specific components or features of anti-viral immunity. Therefore we used a custom database of differentially expressed genes from a study that treated *Myotis daubentonii* cell lines with a modified Rift Valley Fever virus or supplemented with IFN to look at differential gene expression in response to a viral challenge.⁷⁰ For our database, we selected all differentially expressed genes with an adjusted p value of 0.005 or less from both treatments after the 6h time point to capture an immediate acute response to viral infection. Of these genes, 731/984 were present in the windows represented by our 50kb sliding windows dataset. The 253 missing genes were likely

removed during the filtering of regions of poor alignment quality or were missing from the gene annotation. To determine if this gene set showed significant overlap with introgressed regions of the genome, defined as windows with a non-species tree topology, we performed a chi-squared test with a Yates correction in R using the native stats package.

Large introgressed haplotype blocks

A large introgressed haplotype block was identified through visual examination of genome-wide phylogenomic signal in THEx for the *bechsteinii* clade on chromosome V15. This corresponded to the topology where *M. myotis* and *M. daubentonii* were sister taxa relative to *M. bechsteinii* (red topology [Figure 3C](#)). Genes corresponding to this region were extracted as described previously, and an STRING enrichment analysis¹²⁷ was performed choosing human for the database, where FDR > 0.05 was considered significant, and all other parameters as default to determine if any function or pathway was enriched in this region.